

MAR 21 1962

Approved For Release 2004/02/10 : CIA-RDP75-00149R000500250013-9

MIAMI, FLA.
HERALD

MORNING 288,669
SUNDAY 342,643

MAR 21 1962

STAT

Official Is Asked To Resign

Dock Director Promises Fight

City Manager Melvin Reese asked the director of the city yacht docks for his resignation Tuesday.

"But I am not going to give up my job without a fight," said Charles A. Mills.



His job pays \$10,000 a year. As a city department head, he has no protection under the city's civil service.

Reese's request for his resignation follows by two months a city investigation of Mills' non-city business offices.

As a stockholder and vice president of the Allerton Steamship Co., Mills once was part owner of the 212-foot Pensacola Bay, which city spokesmen have termed an "eyesore" on the Miami River.

"I guess that is where the trouble stems from," said Mills Tuesday night. "I hadn't thought a thing about resigning until I got Reese's letter at 4:30 p.m."

Reese declined comment.

Last May, Columnist Drew Pearson reported that the Central Intelligence Agency purchased two landing craft from Mills. They were used in the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.

When city commissioners asked Jan. 17 if there was conflict of interest between Mills' city job and his position as a yacht broker, Mills said the ships had no bearing on his business. The ships were his, he said, and he didn't act as a broker.

Mills, 44, has held the city post for about a year and half. His contract runs to Sept. 19, 1962.